



TOWN OF WELLESLEY

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FIRE RESCUE DEPARTMENT

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Wellesley Firefighter Selected to State Hazmat Team

November 17, 2021 (Wellesley, MA) – The Wellesley Fire Department has new representation on the Massachusetts Hazardous Materials (Hazmat) District 2 Metro Fire Team. Local firefighter Andrew Beckford recently was recently selected to serve on the team by a unanimous vote of the District 2 Steering Committee, following his completion of a rigorous 12-week training course.

“Hazardous materials is my passion. I appreciate the opportunity to be part of this team, and know it takes not only chemistry at the incidents but also chemistry among team members to do this work,” said Beckford.

The District 2 team is one of six hazmat teams in the state strategically located to respond to hazardous materials emergencies in less than one hour. Teams support local fire departments with technical information, expertise, and specialized equipment in incidents that can range from tanker truck rollovers or chemical spills to broken mercury thermometers, unintentional mixing of drain cleaners, pool chemical issues, and more. Beckford was recommended to the Metro Fire hazmat training by Wellesley Fire Chief Rick DeLorie.

“Andrew is an excellent addition to this team. He also serves in the National Guard and has more than ten years of experience as a military hazmat technician. His expertise will benefit all fire departments in District 2, and I’m so pleased he was selected,” said DeLorie.

A second Wellesley firefighter, Lt. Ian McMakin has been on the District 2 hazmat team since 2018.

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